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Faculty of Mathematics and Computer Science
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Module : English

Level : 2LMD

Semester : 1

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UNIT THREE :

The Internet 1 : email and newsgroups

Learning Objectives: By the end of this unit, students should :

1- be better at :

- reading for detail,
- making inference,

2- understand :

- the difference between the Past Simple and the Past Continuous,
- email addresses,

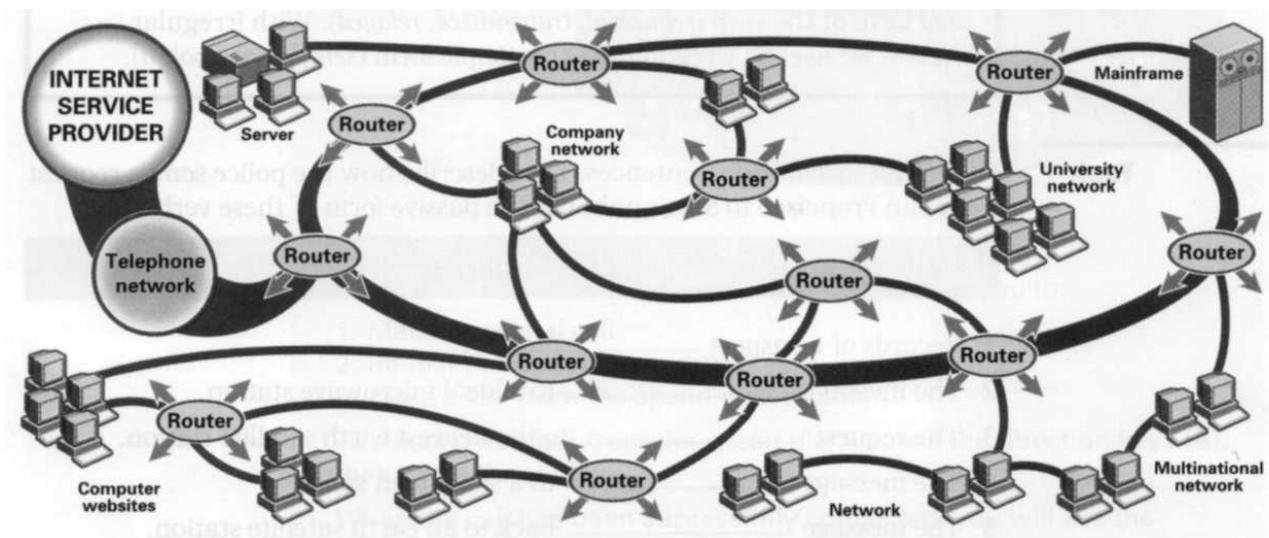
3- know and be able to :

- use these words and abbreviations: *router, server, hub, email, newsgroup, Internet service provider (ISP), attachment, UFO (Unidentified Flying Object).*

A- PREREADING

Task 1 (Warming up): Study this diagram of the Internet. With its help, match these definitions to the correct item on the diagram.

1. A device which selects the best route to send data from one network to another
2. A specialist computer which provides a service to a network
3. A company which provides Internet access
4. A large multi-user computer for processing very large amounts of data
5. Computers connected together to share hardware and software



Key:

1. router 2. server 3. Internet Server Provider (ISP) 4. mainframe 5. network

Task 2: Do you use the Internet? What do people use the Internet for? Make a list and discuss it with your mates.

Key: (Suggestions) / Open discussion

- communication: - email – internet telephony - newsgroups (usenet) – social media - World Wide Web – chat rooms – video conferencing – Facebook – Forums ...
- data transfer: transferring files (FTP) ...
- searching for files (gopher) ...
- entertainment: streaming media – games – YouTube
- taking part in computer simulations (MUDS and MOOS) ...
- education (research and documentation) – distant learning ...
- e-business, e-commerce, shopping, advertising, job-hunting ...
- news (electronic newspapers and magazines) ...

Notes

- Usenet is the main Internet newsgroup service
- FTP is for transferring files
- Gopher is a search engine for finding files
- MUDs and MOOs = real-time computer environments, similar to chat, where groups come together at the same time

to play and discuss common issues.

- MUD (Multi-User Dummies/Dimension/dialogue/ Dungeon) = is basically a chat zone combined with a game. A text-based adventure game played over the Internet against other players who are online at the same time.
- MOOs (Mud Object Oriented) = allow users to build their own additions to the world. You can create rooms, program objects (simple furniture, talking pets, or talking furniture), as well as interacting with other players.

B- READING - 1

Email

Task 3: Study this email then answer the following questions.

1. Who is the sender?
2. What is his email address?
3. Who is it sent to?
4. What is it about?
5. What time was the message sent?
6. In what form is the main part of the message?

From: j.eastleigh@gltech.ac.uk
Date: 9/10/98, 15.35
To: gpark@ed.ac.uk, pricel@aol.com, aperez@kmc.ed.uk
Subject: Party

Dear all,
Too lazy to type. I've recorded this message as an attachment.
John

- Key:**
1. The sender is John Eastleigh.
 2. His email address is j.eastleigh@gltech.ac.uk
 3. It is sent to: G. Park, L. Price, and A. Perez.
 4. It is about a party.
 5. The message was sent at 15:35
 6. The main part of the message is in a form of recording sent as an attachment.

Notes

Emails are less formal than letters. They resemble memos more than letters. Often there is no greeting (Dear ...), although example above has one. Emails may include all sorts of attachments (audio, video, graphics, etc. In the example above, the paperclip shows that there is an attachment.

Remember: (Oral expression of email addresses)

Write:

Yacine2005@yahoo.com

Say/Read :

Yacine2005	@	yahoo.com
Yacine two thousand –and-five	at (/æt/)	yahoo dot com
↓	↓	↓
[user name]	[arobas]	[domain name]

Task 4: Now read the attachment and find the answers to these questions:

1. When did he start his course?
2. Why is Friday different from other days?
3. Which class does he most enjoy?
4. What is he thinking of for a project?
5. Why does he not like the maths lecturer/teacher?
6. What sport does he play at lunch-time?
7. What's happening on the 17th?
8. Where will it be?
9. Who will be there?
10. What sort of course is John taking?

Attachment text:

Hi, I started my course last Monday. We've got classes every day from 8.45 until a quarter past four, apart from Fridays when we finish at 2.30. We can use the computer lab then, so I've taken the chance to send this message. The course is OK so far. 'Design and Make' is the best class. We've got to construct a project of our town. I'm thinking of a security alarm for my bike.

The staff is fine apart from Maths –no sense of humour- and I'm getting to know the rest of the class. There's an indoor sports centre we can use at lunch-times, and a few of us have started kicking a ball about most days. We might get a team going.

Let me know how your course is going and how life is treating you. If you're free on the 17th, come over. I'm having a party at my flat. Nothing fancy, but you'll meet Sandra again.

Notes

- The language in the text is colloquial and informal, that of a student writing/talking to his mate.
- *kicking a ball about* = playing football
- *get a team going* = start a football team.
- *nothing fancy* = (informal) nothing special, no special event, nothing extraordinary

Key:

1. When did he start his course? ► last Monday
2. Why is Friday different from other days? ► on Fridays, classes finish at 2.30 instead of 4.15
3. Which class does he most enjoy? ► 'Design and Make'
4. What is he thinking of for a project? ► designing a security alarm for his bike
5. Why does he not like the maths lecturer? ► he has no sense of humour
6. What sport does he play at lunch-time? ► football
7. What's happening on the 17th? ► he's having a party
8. Where will it be? ► at his flat
9. Who will be there? ► Sandra
10. What sort of course is John taking? ► (deduction): he is on an electronics course at a technical college

C- READING - 2

Newsgroups

Task 5: You can exchange views on almost any subject by joining an Internet newsgroup. Which of these groups (a-j) would interest the following people (1-6)?

Note
alt = alternative
rec = recreational

<i>Newsgroup</i>	<i>People</i>
a) alt.algebra.help	1- a football fan 2- a student with maths problems 3- a bottle collector 4- a comic book collector 5- a fan of Indian cinema 6- someone interested in clothes
b) alt.asian-movies	
c) alt.comics.batman	
d) alt.education.disabled	
e) alt.fashion	
f) alt.sport.soccer.european	
g) alt.tasteless-jokes	
h) rec.antiques.bottles	
i) alt.food.wine	
j) alt.music.world	

Key:

People	1	2	3	4	5	6
Newsgroup	f	a	h	c	b	e

Task 6: Study this exchange between subscribers to a newsgroup and find the answers to these questions.

1. What newsgroup is this?
2. Who sent the first message?
3. When did he send it?
4. Where was flight KN162 going?
5. What did the pilot see?
6. Who sent the second message?
7. What was the object?
8. Why do they think so?
9. What did the coastguard see?
10. What was he doing?

From: rsony@hotmail.com Date: 06 March 1998 05.39
 Newsgroup: alt.alien.visitors
 The pilot of flight KN162 from Dallas to Fargo on February 17th 1998 reported a UFO heading north-east at an altitude of 10,000 metres and a speed of more than 2,000 km/h. He described the vessel as silver in colour, cigar-shaped and with short wings. Did anyone else see this?
 Ron

From: Ben & Thelma Subject: Re: UFO Report
 This could be an experimental military plane. There are no reports of alien ships with wings. Most UFOs are saucer-shaped like the one which crashed at Roswell.

From: Steve Subject: Re: UFO Report
 Nonsense. Winged alien craft are quite common. US coastguard Harry Pitman saw 3 winged craft over Cape Cod on 4th March 1995 while searching for a missing fishing boat.

Key:

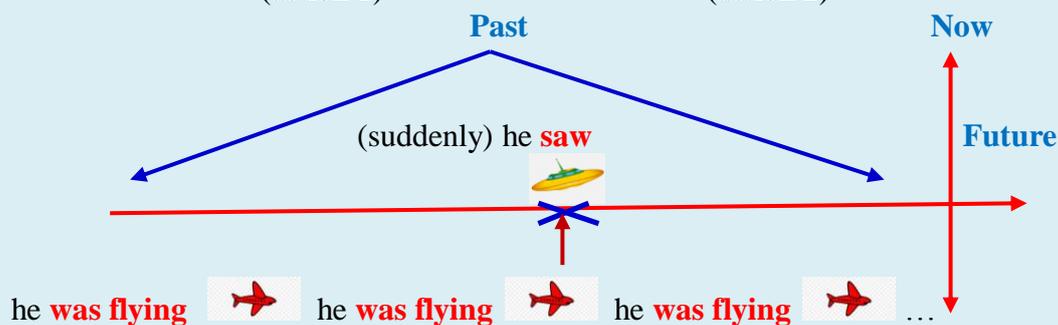
1. What newsgroup is this? ▶ alt. alien.visitors
2. Who sent the first message? ▶ Ron Sony
3. When did he send it? ▶ 6th March 1998 at 05.39
4. Where was flight KN162 going? ▶ Fargo (North Dakota)
5. What did the pilot see? ▶ a UFO
6. Who sent the second message? ▶ Ben and Thelma
7. What was the object? ▶ an experimental military plane
8. Why do they think so? ▶ the object was not the usual shape of alien ships
9. What did the coastguard see? ▶ three winged for a missing fishing boat
10. What was he doing? ▶

D- Language work

Past simple vs Past continuous

- ▶ We make the **Past continuous** with *was/were* + the *-ing* form of the verb. We often use it to provide the context for actions in the past.

He **was flying** from Dallas to Fargo. He **saw** a UFO.
(action 1) (action 2)



- ▶ To show that one past action happened in the middle of another past action, we can link them using *when*, *as*, and *while*.

- **When** he **was flying** from Dallas to Fargo, he **saw** a UFO.
- He **was flying** from Dallas to Fargo **when** he **saw** a UFO.

- **As** he **was flying** from Dallas to Fargo, he **saw** a UFO.
- He **saw** a UFO **as** he **was flying** from Dallas to Fargo,.

- **While** he **was flying** from Dallas to Fargo, he **saw** a UFO.
- He **saw** a UFO **while** he **was flying** from Dallas to Fargo.

- ▶ We use the Past simple for completed actions, especially those which take very little time. We use the Past continuous to describe actions which happen over a period of time.

- He **saw** a UFO. It **was heading** north-east. It **was travelling** at 2,000 km/h.
↓ ↓ ↓
(finished) (continuous/progressive) (continuous/progressive)

Let's practise

Task 7: Recall the story and put the verb in brackets into the Past simple or the Past continuous.

1. The plane _____ (go) to Fargo.
2. The UFO _____ (fly) at 10,000 metres.
3. The pilot _____ (notice) it had short wings.
4. The pilot _____ (report) the incident.
5. He _____ (describe) the vessel as silver in colour.
6. No one else _____ (see) the UFO.
7. The UFO _____ (head) north-east.
8. The coastguard _____ (see) three winged craft.
9. He _____ (search) for a missing fishing boat.
10. Another UFO _____ (crash) at Roswell.

- Key:**
1. The plane **was going** to Fargo.
 2. The UFO **was flying** at 10,000 metres.
 3. The pilot **noticed** it had short wings.
 4. The pilot **reported** the incident.
 5. He **described** the vessel as silver in colour.
 6. No one else **saw** the UFO.
 7. The UFO **was heading** north-east.
 8. The coastguard **saw** three winged craft.
 9. He **was searching** for a missing fishing boat.
 10. Another UFO **crashed** at Roswell.

Task 8: Link these actions to show that one action happened during the other action. Put each verb in the correct tense, and use an appropriate time word: while, as, or when.

1. He _____ (fly) from London to Edinburgh. He _____ (see) a UFO.
2. Her computer _____ (crash). She _____ (search) the Internet.
3. They _____ (study). A fire _____ (start) in the Computer Lab.
4. She _____ (print) out her email. The printer _____ (develop) a fault.
5. They _____ (work) on the computer. Someone _____ (switch) on the power.

Key: (Note that the choice of structure depends on the information focus you choose)

1. **When/As/While** he **was flying** from London to Edinburgh. He **saw** a UFO.
or: He **was flying** from London to Edinburgh **when** he **saw** a UFO.

2. Her computer **crashed when/as/while** she **was searching** the Internet.
or: When her computer **crashed**, she **was searching** the Internet.

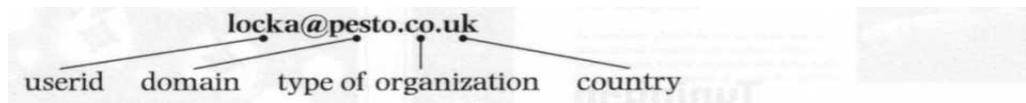
3. **When/As/While** they **were studying**, a fire **started** in the Computer Lab.

4. **When/As/While** she **was printing** out her email, the printer **developed** a fault.
or: **When** the printer **developed** a fault, she **was printing** out her email.

5. **When/As/While** they **were working** on the computer, someone **switched** on the power.
or: They **were working** on the computer **when** someone **switched** on the power.

E- Problem-solving

▶ Study this typical email address. It belongs to Anna Lock, who works for the Pesto company in the UK.



▶ Study these examples of types of organizations and countries.

Organizations	Countries
com/co = commercial organization	at = Austria
edu/ac = education	au = Australia
gov = government	ca = Canada
int = international organizations	ch = Switzerland
mil = military	de = Germany
net = network provider	es = Spain
org = not-for-profit	fr = France

▶ Note that email addresses in the United States do not have a country name

Task 9: Whose email addresses are these? Match the addresses (1-8) to the list of users (a-h).

Addresses	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Users								

Addresses	Users
1 redcrossyouth@algonet.se	a a UN organization based in Italy
2 webmaster@fao.org.it	b a US politician
3 today@bbc.co.uk	c a Swedish charity
4 jsmith@smith.senate.gov	d a student at a French university
5 rossi@cantsoc.com.it	e a news programme on a public broadcasting service in the UK
6 sales@demon.net	f an Italian wine co-operative
7 lunchx@swtol.usace.army.mil	g a military organization based in the US
8 s.larrieu@ly.ac.fr	h an ISP (Internet Service Provider)

Key:

Addresses	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Users	c	a	e	b	f	h	g	d

▶ Note the absence of country name in email address number 7 (lunchx@swtol.usace.army.mil)

Now, read the email addresses out loud.

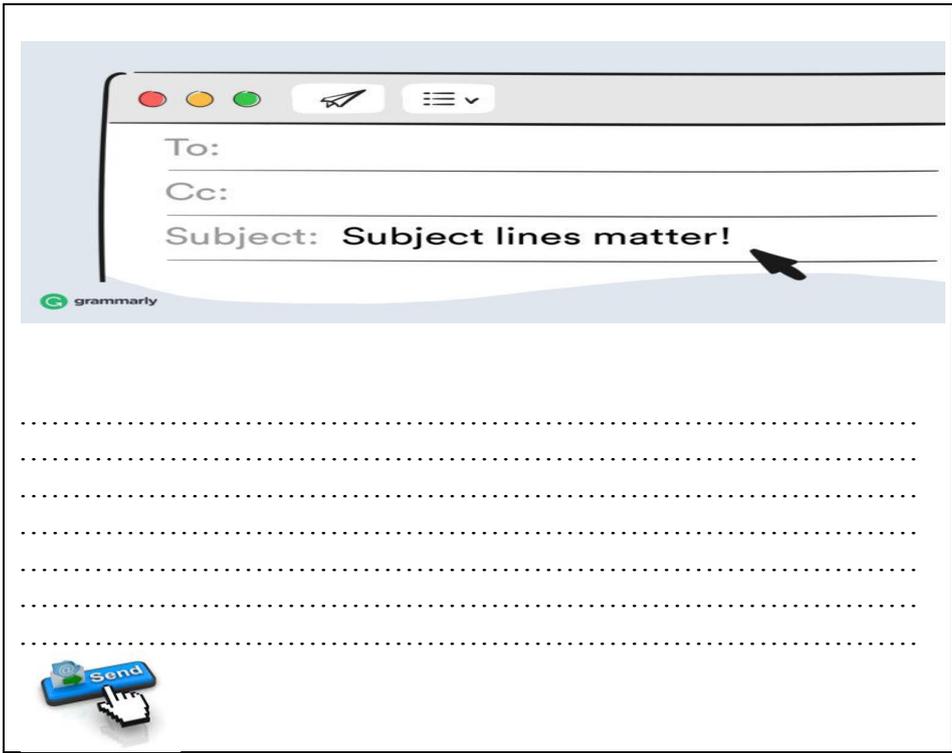
F- Writing

Task 10: Write a brief email to a friend describing your course. Your message should answer these questions.

1. What is your course called?
2. When do you have classes?
3. Which subjects do you study?
4. Which subjects do you enjoy most? Why?
5. Which subjects do you like least? Why?
6. What do you do in your free time?

You are asked to :

- write, firstly, six sentences in answer to the questions in the task, then use linking ideas/words so that to transform them into two or three complex sentences in the email,
- complete the information in the heading of the email (*from, date, to, subject...*),
- use real or imagined email addresses provided you follow the conventions described in Task 9,
- send real messages to one other in English.



G- Further reading

Task 11 : Read the text and answer the questions

The Internet 1: email and newsgroups

When different networks are connected together, the combined network is called an internetwork or internet. The connection of networks throughout the world forms what is known as the Internet. Networks all over the world are connected to the Internet using electronic devices known as routers. The routers decide which route on the Internet a particular signal should take to get to its destination. Users often pay a monthly fee to a type of company known as an Internet service provider (ISP), to provide them with an Internet connection. A variety of services such as email and file transfer are made available to users on the Internet. These services are controlled using a system of server computers at various locations throughout the world.

Electronic mail, which has come to be known as email, is one of the most popular services on the Internet. Email allows users to send electronic messages to storage areas known as mailboxes on server computers where they can be read by other users. Each user has their own email address which determines where their email messages are stored. Every email address has two main parts separated by an at symbol, i.e. username@ domain name. The domain name may be subdivided using dots. A typical email address might have the following components:

Username or identifier@server name.type of organization.country

Standard codes are used for the types of organization, although they may vary slightly from country to country. Not all email addresses use all the possible parts of the domain name. An email message has two main parts known as the header and the body of the message. The body contains the message itself, whilst the header reveals the identity of the recipient and of the sender, the date it was sent, and the subject title of the message. The most basic type of email consists of plain text to which other types of computer files, such as formatted text, spreadsheets, sound files, or video files can be attached. These email attachments can then be opened and read using an appropriate program on the recipient's computer.

Groups of users that share a special interest can subscribe to free newsgroups on the Internet. Subscribers can send plain text messages to a common area on a server computer where all the newsgroup members can read them. In this way, conversations about the special interest can take place between all the members of the group. The name of the newsgroup is made up of different parts separated by dots and indicates the specialist area the subscribers are interested in. For example, newsgroup names that begin with alt indicate that they deal with alternative types of subjects, e.g. alt.tasteless-jokes. Newsgroup names beginning with rec deal with recreational subjects, e.g. rec.chess. When you are replying to a message, it is common for the email program to include the original message with each line marked with a chevron (>), and if you are replying to a reply, each line of the original text is marked with double chevrons (>>). In this way the correspondents can keep track of the conversation.

1. What is known as the Internet?
2. What networks all over the world are connected to the Internet with?
3. Whom users often pay a monthly fee?
4. What services are made available to users on the Internet?
5. What does e-mail allow users to do?
6. What do you need an e-mail address for?
7. What does an e-mail address consist of?

H- Words to know

- 1) browser, n 2) download, v 3) search engine, n 4) title bar, n 5) menu bar, n 6) toolbar, n 7) address box, n 8) link, n 9) World Wide Web (the) 10) White Pages(the), n 11) website, n 12) Website address, n 13) webpage, n 14) post, v 15) online, adj 16) grandfather, father, son method, n 17) graphics package, n 18) command button, n 19) to fetch, v 20) status bar, n 21) URL (Uniform Resource Locator), n